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ABSTRACT

Focusing on the 1995-96 academic year, this report discusses programs and outcomes for the seven colleges in the Maine Technical College System (MTCS). Following a message from the System President, general outcomes for the MTCS are described. This section indicates that systemwide enrollment in fall 1995 was 4,475, representing a 24% increase from 1989; that the colleges' continuing education divisions served over 11,000 students in credit and noncredit courses and workshops in 1995-96; that York County Technical College (YCTC) began operation in September 1995 with a class of 175 students; that tech prep continued its expansion in the System, with over 4,000 students enrolling in applied academics courses in 1995-96; and that the System's Quality Center program helped 30 companies in its first 18 months of existence. The next section provides profiles of program chairs at the System's seven colleges, including the chairs of business at Kennebac Valley Technical College; general education at Northern Maine Technical College; diesel, truck, and heavy equipment at Eastern Maine Technical College; business administration at YCTC; electromechanical technology at Central Maine Technical College; and nursing at Southern Maine Technical College. Pie charts and graphs are then provided showing the sources and uses of MTCS funds for 1994-95 and an enrollment history for 1989-95. Finally, lists are presented of Board of Trustee and Advisory Board members for fiscal year 1995. (HAA)

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Maine Technical College System Annual Report 1996

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This Annual Report is respectfully dedicated to our faculty. We'd like to thank the seven individuals who let us tell their stories in this report, for their qualities exemplify the talent, enthusiasm and commitment of the men and women who teach at Maine's technical colleges.

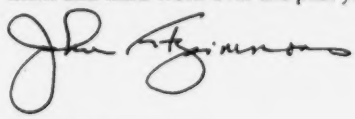
President's Message

a passion for teaching...pride in their programs...a personal commitment to each and every student.... These are some of the traits that have left a lasting impression on me as I've visited with faculty in their labs, classrooms and shop floors across the state. These qualities—along with a willingness to embrace change and learn from its challenges—are what make me so proud to be part of the technical college system.

As you read the faculty profiles in this report, I think you will agree that these stories say a lot about why the technical colleges are so successful. Very simply, these individuals care deeply about the quality of their programs. They come to work not to "do a job", but to fulfill a mission: to help each and every one of their students develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence that will serve them well in their future careers.

Along with our faculty, there are hundreds of talented people working every day at the technical colleges to ensure the success of our students. Counselors, librarians, business office staff, maintenance staff, and many others play an important role in making sure that the college is running smoothly so that our students can focus on their education.

We hope you enjoy reading about a few of the men and women who have dedicated themselves to this noble purpose, and join me and members of our Board of Trustees in thanking them and all of our employees for their commitment and hard work over the past year.



John Fitzsimmons
President

A personal commitment to each and every student...

■ **Enrollment** at Maine's seven technical colleges has continued to climb, with 4,475 students — representing all of Maine's 16 counties — enrolling in the Fall of 1995. Between 1989 and 1995, enrollment at the MTCS has risen 24 percent ● The colleges' **continuing education** divisions served over 11,000 students in credit and noncredit courses and workshops in 1995/96, and provided customized training to more than 140 organizations ● In the 18 months since Maine voters approved a $5 million **bond issue** for up-to-date equipment, the technical colleges have raised 80 percent of the $1.5 million match ● The colleges raised over $1.8 million in **private sector donations** during the past two years, for equipment upgrades, student scholarships, and other purposes ● A new **alumni service**, designed to link Maine employers with qualified technical college graduates, was initiated in 1996; Maine TEC Net was funded through a generous private donation ● Over 900 **registered apprentices** were served during the past year with related coursework offered through the technical colleges; apprenticeship opportunities were expanded in Aroostook, Washington and York counties ■ Kennebec Valley Technical College in Fairfield was named a beneficiary of the **Frances M. Hatley** Charitable Unitrust, resulting in a $100,000 boost to nursing scholarships and equipment ● New **articulation agreements** between KVTC and L/A College were developed to ease the pathway for KVTC business and occupational therapy assistant students planning to transfer from KVTC into a baccalaureate program ● Another articulation agreement between KVTC, area high schools, and the University of Maine was developed to provide a career ladder for students interested in careers in the **pulp and paper** industry ■ Joyce B. Hedlund was named

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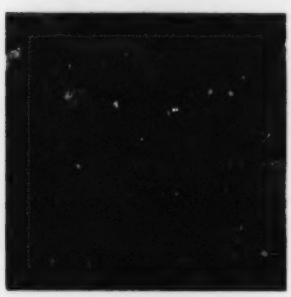
1994-1996

the **new president** of Eastern Maine Technical College in Bangor. Dr. Hedlund previously served as Vice President of EMTC ● EMTC was named a New England **Regional Quality Academy**, providing total quality management training for businesses and educational institutions ● The **Center at East Millinocket**, a joint partnership between EMTC and the University of Maine System, offered fifty-seven courses off campus to 526 EMTC students in 1995-96 ■ In 1995-96, Southern Maine Technical College received its **ten-year accreditation** from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEAS&C) ● During the past two years, SMTC added **new programs** in business administration, early childhood education, emergency medical technician, and video technology. The college also restructured its machine tool technology program — now called **integrated manufacturing** technology ● SMTC won several grants in 1995-96, including a **humanities grant** to bring together technical and general education faculty for summer study, a grant to further develop the college's **NovaNET** Learning Lab, and one from the **Center for Diversity** to produce a video history of women shipbuilders ■ Northern Maine Technical College's accreditation was renewed by the NEAS&C; also, the college's nursing department received **continued accreditation** from the National League for Nursing and the Maine State Board of Nursing ● Reflecting the college's ongoing commitment to **professional development**, three NMTC faculty were awarded doctoral degrees, a business office employee earned a baccalaureate degree, and numerous others pursued advanced degrees during the past two years ● NMTC developed two new articulation agreements: one in the field of

IN REVIEW

agri-business (2+2+2) with Presque Isle High School and the University of Maine, and one in electrical engineering technology (2+2), also with the University of Maine ■ **York County** Technical College in Wells opened its doors on September 5, 1995 to its first class with 175 students. The new college provided customized training to 13 organizations during its first year of operation, including several Quality Center projects ● YCTC was granted authority in February 1996 to award federal **financial aid** — a critical milestone for the college — and received approval to offer 11 certificate and associate degree programs in 1996-97 ● The college kicked off a $2.8 million **capital campaign** under the guidance of A. William Kany, retired President of Saco-Biddeford Savings Institution, and a current member of the MTCS Board of Trustees ■ Central Maine Technical College student Jacqueline Couillard was selected as one of 20 **First Team All-USA** students by Phi Theta Kappa and USA Today.

Ms. Couillard was honored at a ceremony in Atlanta, GA ● CMTC opened an **Outreach Center** in Livermore Falls, with financial assistance provided by the International Paper Company Foundation ● CMTC was selected as a member of a seven-college consortium in New England to deliver an AAS program in **Telecommunications** Technology for NYNEX employees ■ After 22 years at Washington County Technical College, President



Ronald P. Renauld retired earlier this year to explore new career interests. Friends, family members, colleagues and community leaders came together to honor President Renaud for his leadership and service to the college and the MTCS community ● Culminating several years of work to **restructure**

1994-1996

the curriculum, in 1995-96 WCTC introduced seven new associate degree programs — in construc-

tion technology, food and hospitality service, marine technology, mechanical technology, and other disciplines ● As part of the college's reengineering, WCTC's renowned **boatbuilding program** was revamped to reflect changes in the industry, including the integration of computer-aided drafting and design methods ■ **Tech Prep** continued it's expansion in Maine high schools with over 4,000 students enrolling in applied academics courses last year ■ Maine Career Advantage, which began in 1993 as a small pilot project in Southern Maine, has continued to expand, with 1,105 students from every region of Maine participating in **career internships**, summer internships and career preparation activities during 1995-96. Close to 200 Maine businesses and 100 high schools and technical centers are now partners in the program ● The Center for Career Development developed two international student **exchange programs** for MCA interns: a tourism-related exchange with Austria; and a metals manufacturing exchange with Germany ● The program received high marks from a **business survey** conducted earlier this year by the Maine Development Foundation: 96 percent of respondents said they believe MCA is an important educational and economic development priority for the state ■

The Maine Quality Centers program has helped 30 **companies expand** in Maine during its first 18 months. Together, these companies are projected to bring 1,844 new jobs to Maine and generate approximately $1.5 billion in private investment ● Businesses served by the **Quality Centers** include Lemforder, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maine, Idexx Laboratories, National Semiconductor, Augat Inc., seven metals manufacturers from York County, seven composite firms, and others ●

IN REVIEW

MARIE MULLIN-MAFFEI
chair—food & hospitality service
washington county technical college

Marie Mullin-Maffei is, in her own words, "a mono-maniac on a mega-mission." And nothing about her accomplishments or her personality say otherwise. She is the chair and lone faculty member of the Food and Hospitality Service department at WCTC. She is an obsessive gardener. She is a single mother of two children. She is completing her master's degree from the University of Southern Maine. She recently won the excellence award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. And she is the first woman ever to be named "Chef of the Year" by the Maine Chapter of the American Culinary Federation.

Still, Maffei says her greatest sense of accomplishment comes when an average student completes her program and "goes on to do great things. I feel great when I'm helping students make connections... when they tell me I've made a difference in their lives."

Maffei began her "mission" at the age of 14, helping out in the family restaurant on the New Jersey shore. Later, she earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. Seeking to find her real calling, she and her husband converted an old school bus and traveled the country. She worked in food service operations in several states, eventually settling on Maine—in the Calais area—to settle down. In 1983 Maffei joined WCTC.

"I know my students would describe me as a tough teacher," she says. "I run them hard and give them a ton of homework. They get a baptism by fire."

In addition to her role as chair and teacher, Maffei is also her students' lead cheerleader ("I make sure every one of my students gets a job," she says). She is her department's chief fundraiser, netting enough funds to take her students on field trips to New York City, Florida, and even abroad to Amsterdam. She has worked to develop articulation agreements with local secondary schools, and the University of Maine System. And she's also looking into developing a student exchange program, as well as an endowment.

"I have the second best job in the world (next to being a mom)," she says. "I really believe in this kind of education. We give people hope and upward mobility and opportunity. We help students figure out what to do with their lives."

"I believe in th kind of education. We give people hop and upward mobility and opportunity.

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GARY STEVENS
chair—business department
kennebec valley technical college

Gary Stevens once led a very metropolitan lifestyle. He held good jobs with multi-national corporations. He had an office in Washington, D.C. and a nice house in the suburbs.

But after a family vacation in Maine in 1972, he traded it all in for a tiny desk in the back of Waterville High School — the first home of Kennebec Valley Technical College.

"I wanted to raise a family in a nice area, and I just wanted to teach," says Stevens, who now chairs KVTC's Business Administration Department.

The ebullient Stevens loves to joke about KVTC's first library — a 4-foot by 5-foot closet, the most interesting contents of which were a stack of Wall Street Journals. Now, of course, the college's library is an outstanding facility on its 60-acre campus on Western Avenue in Fairfield.

And Stevens, known for his high-energy class discussions, is now a veteran business instructor and the editor of his own financial newsletter called "Interesting Earnings." And he doesn't think twice about his life-changing move 22 years ago. "I love living and working in central Maine and I don't regret it at all," he says.

In addition to his duties as chair, Stevens teaches economics, marketing, labor relations and management. "I love walking into the classroom every day and teaching and engaging students," he says. "My job is to prepare students to integrate into the world of business with ease. I bring the real world to class."

While it's important that students gain an understanding of basic business concepts, Stevens says the secret to success in business is the ability to "think and solve problems and to communicate effectively."

He also tells students that in the 1990's "you have to work very, very hard to survive" in the business world, particularly with the globalization of the economy and the unending pressures to improve quality and performance.

But he also tells students to keep things in perspective. "My priorities are my Christian faith, my family, and then my job," Stevens said. "Oh yeah, and I love to go fishing."

"My job is to prepare students to integrate into the world of business with ease. I bring the real world to class."

RON FITZGERALD
chair—general education department
northern maine technical college

Each time a new version of a popular software program hits the market, Ron Fitzgerald is ready. As an instructor and chair of the General Education Department at NMTC, it is Fitzgerald's job to teach students — from all different disciplines — how to make good use of those pervasive office tools known as computers. He already knows seven different word processing programs, and this year he's focusing on electronic spreadsheets and business presentation software.

"I try to incorporate new technology into my daily life," says Fitzgerald, who in 1994 earned his master's degree from Antioch New England Graduate School. "I think it's difficult for teachers to expect students to constantly learn if we don't do it ourselves."

Although Fitzgerald spent 10 years teaching math to middle school students, as well as coaching basketball and softball, his real love is teaching adult students. His dedication to adult learning led to a three-year appointment to the State Adult Education Advisory Committee. And in 1994, he was honored with the Distinguished Service Award by the Aroostook County Adult Education Directors.

"The average age of technical college students is increasing each year," says Fitzgerald, whose department is also responsible for teaching math, science, humanities, social sciences and developmental courses. "This has forced us to change. We must be more sensitive to the demands that older students have on them." Availability is a key: "I tell my students that my door is open all the time for extra help or just to ask me a question."

He also emphasizes the need to be a lifelong learner. "You can't minimize the value of real, technical skills, but they have a window of relevance," he says. "Students need a total education, not just training for a particular job... because jobs can disappear." Fitzgerald says students need to leave NMTC with critical thinking skills, people skills, and an ability to learn new things.

Despite the financial challenges facing Maine's higher education system in recent years, Fitzgerald says he's as energized as ever: "After 15 years at NMTC, I still have that desire to come here every morning and make this a better place for students and employees."

"it's difficult for teachers to expect students to constantly learn if we don't do it ourselves."

GENE FADRIGON
chair—diesel, truck & heavy equipment
eastern maine technical college

Gene Fadrigon learned compassion from his mother. His perfectionism came from spending 24 years in the diesel and heavy equipment industry.

It is these traits, says Fadrigon, that drive most of what he does as an instructor and department chair at EMTC.

Fadrigon insists that his students keep the lab area spotless. He has instituted numerous health and safety measures. And he asks every student to sign a strict attendance policy. "Punctuality is a must," he says matter-of-factly.

He also insists on interviewing applicants. "I make time to see every one," he says. "It takes a lot of time, but in the long run I think it's worth it, so they know exactly what to expect. This is an intense program with very high standards."

With Fadrigon's leadership, the program in 1995 became one of only 19 ASE-certified diesel and heavy equipment programs in the country. The program has links with General Motors, Chrysler, Honda and Kenworth Truck. This sends a signal of quality to businesses, says Fadrigon, and it gives graduates a lot of credibility in the job market. As a former registered apprentice, journeyman mechanic and diesel fuel injection manager for H.E. Sargent, Fadrigon understands clearly what makes a good employee.

According to Fadrigan more than 90 percent of his graduates find quality jobs — because of their own skills, and also because of EMTC's close ties to business. "We can't just sit back and hope that students get jobs," he says.

Fadrigon brings these same standards to bear on his hockey teams at Old Town High School, where he has been head coach for 12 years. In addition to state championships in 1992 and 1993, Fadrigon has been named coach of the year four times.

He considers both jobs labors of love: "I'm in a position to have a direct and positive effect on people's lives," he says. "It's not very often that you can take your vocation and turn it into this kind of opportunity. I'm lucky, and I try to pay it back by working hard."

"I position to have a direct and positive effect on people's lives. It's not very often that you can take your vocation and turn it into this kind of opportu

SUSAN CASSIDY
chair—business administration
york county technical college

Susan Cassidy's teaching skills have been well developed after nearly 23 years in education. And she has used every bit of her experience — and more — since she accepted the job as chair of the business department at York County Technical College, which enrolled its first class in the fall of 1995.

"There were so many things that had to be done," she says. "The pace was incredible. I got the job in June and classes were starting in September. I certainly had a trial by fire."

After her first year, though, Cassidy says she has hit her stride. She has many ideas in mind to improve YCTC's student newsletter, which she helped create. She recently attended her first National Community College Chair Academy in Colorado, a professional development conference for academic chairpersons, where she fine-tuned her leadership skills. She also joined the Ogunquit Rotary, and she has settled into her new home in Standish.

"We had a wonderful year and [the faculty] were all totally involved in the college's development," she says. "I really feel a personal ownership in YCTC."

Cassidy says that although she enjoyed her time teaching adolescents — first at Calais High School, then Pittsfield, Skowhegan, and finally Waterville High School — working with adult students, with their motivation and commitment, has been an inspiration.

"The average age of our students (at YCTC) is around 36 years," says Cassidy, who has a master's degree from Husson College. "We had a 64-year-old man who had never touched a computer in his life. I just love teaching adults... people who really want their money's worth. Seeing them blossom and gain new skills and abilities is fantastic."

Cassidy's interest in technical education runs in the family. Her husband Bill is a former associate vocational education commissioner for the State now working as YCTC's Dean of Students. And the Cassidys' son Pat is a recent graduate of Central Maine Technical College.

Her experience has shown her that people need real skills to succeed today, and also that businesses are demanding more from their employees than ever before.

"Businesses need skilled people at every level," she says. "My goal is to have business people say 'those people went through York County's business program. Hire them.'"

"My goal is to have business people say 'those people went through York County's business program. Hire them.

ROGER BERTRAND
chair—electromechanical technology
central maine technical college

In the late 1960's, Roger Bertrand would "pile students into a pick-up and go to work." In those days, he says, his responsibility was to "teach them the trade." Now, Bertrand's charge is to teach "at the highest level possible," and his students spend all of their time in labs and classrooms at CMTC.

As chair of his department since the early 80's, and a faculty member since 1965, Bertrand has played a key role in transforming what was essentially an electrician's training ground into a state-of-the-art program teaching robotics, instrumentation and programmable controls.

Along the way, the department's mission was expanded, and the name was changed from Industrial Controls to Electromechanical Technology. "We give our graduates a lot more flexibility in the job market by educating them in four different areas," Bertand says.

"It's a never-ending effort to keep up-to-date. We have to push ourselves ahead or we'll become obsolete."

The dramatic changes in the electrical and electronics industry have been exciting, Bertrand says, but they have posed significant challenges to himself and other faculty members who must keep pace with industry.

"I've evolved in this," says Bertrand, who started his career as a journeyman electrician. "It's a never-ending effort to keep up-to-date. We have to push ourselves ahead or we'll become obsolete." One obvious change in the program: there are at least as many computers in his department as there are in any other college program.

Bertrand helps to set the example: since becoming a faculty member, he has earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees. He also wrote his own textbook to better meet the needs of his students — "Programmable Controller Circuits" was published in 1995 by Delmar Publishing.

Helping to balance his focus on the future, Bertrand spends summers working his 200-acre hay farm in Durham.

And what keeps this 31-year veteran going to the classroom? "We have 60 students every year and we're responsible for every one," he says. "It's great interacting with students and being able to teach them skills that they'll have forever."

NAOMI WILSON

nursing instructor
southern maine technical college

"I do whatever I can to make classes interesting. If I can make the endocrine system humorous, I've done well."

after earning her bachelor's degree in nursing in 1975, Naomi Wilson went to work in the maternity ward at Knox County Hospital in Glen Cove. But after several years working the night shift, the young nurse needed a change.

So in 1980, Naomi and her husband Barry packed up their Pinto wagon and headed to the Navajo Indian reservation in Fort Defiance, Arizona. It was supposed to be a one-year "adventure," Naomi says. Instead, the couple spent five years living and working in the heart of Navajo culture — Barry as a teacher, Naomi as a nurse in the reservation's hospital.

"We became completely immersed," says Naomi, now a nursing instructor at SMTC. "We just couldn't leave after a year."

After five years, they moved to Texas so Naomi could complete her graduate work at the University of Texas at Austin. In 1991, they made it back home, moving into a family house just a few hundred feet from SMTC's Spring Point campus.

Naomi began working part time at SMTC, and was offered a full-time position in the fall of 1992. She now teaches courses in nursing fundamentals, death and dying, maternity care, and psychiatric nursing, her personal favorite. She also helps coordinate students' psychiatric clinical studies at local community centers and hospitals.

She is clearly in her element at the college. Her energy for her job is evident.

"I really, really like what I do," Wilson says. "I like challenging people's minds and problem-solving with them... discovering with them. It's great fun. I don't watch the clock."

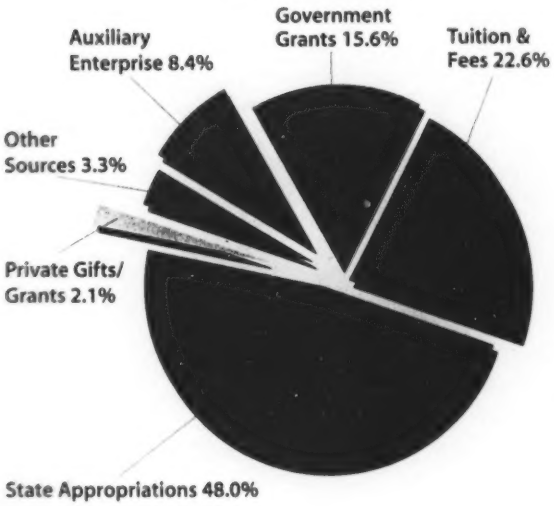
She finds working with older students particularly enjoyable: only two of SMTC's 65 nursing students in 1995-96 were right out of high school.

These demographics challenge Wilson and other instructors: "This program isn't easy, and these students expect a lot from us," she says. "I do whatever I can to make classes interesting. If I can make the endocrine system humorous, I've done well."

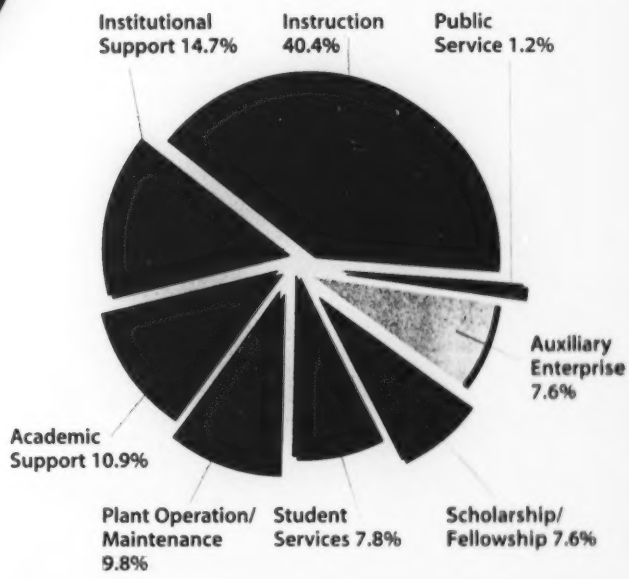
In the end, Wilson says she wants her students to leave SMTC with solid technical skills, but also "as good problem-solvers and thinkers, as very ethical people who know how to be sensitive to patients' needs and dignity."

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1994-95
Total Funds $51,275,227

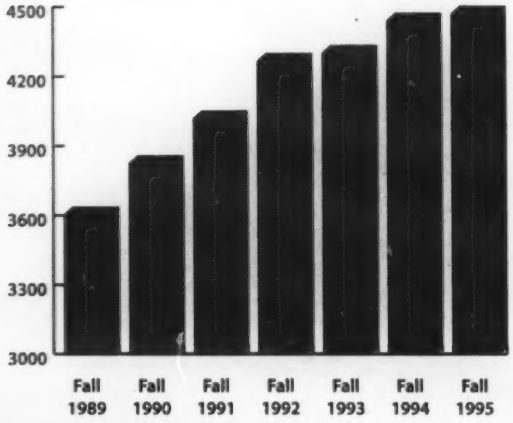


USES OF FUNDS



ENROLLMENT HISTORY

(Degree -seeking students)



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The Board of Trustees and MTCS community wish to acknowledge the loss of a special friend and trustee, John H. Lapoint Jr., who died April 7, 1995 while serving as a member of the Board of Trustees. In the spirit of his generosity and his unwavering belief in the value of education, the John H. Lapoint Jr. Leadership Awards have been established in his memory, to be presented annually to the seven Technical College Students of the Year.

The Maine Technical College System wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their contributions and service to Maine's technical colleges through their membership on the college Advisory Boards in 1995-96

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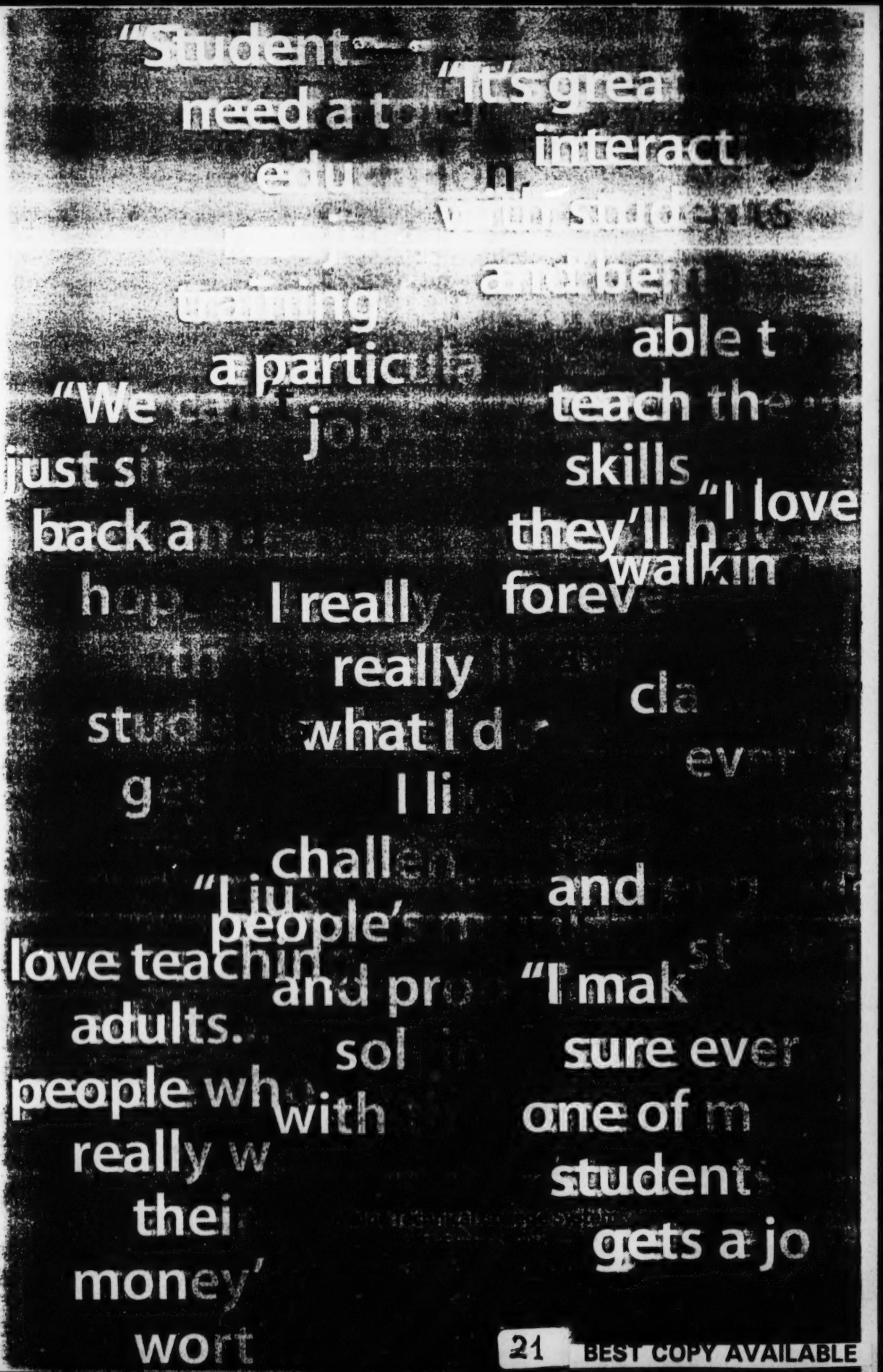

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